

## Comparison of Common Threads of Success – Case Studies

| Common Threads                  | Michigan REAP2   | ECycling – EPA Region 3   | Northeastern Indiana Multi-District   |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Year Started                    | Best Practices Collection Phase began in 2002.   | Pilot Collection Models began in 2001   | Fall 2001   |
| Program Goal(s)                 | To develop a private sector electronics recycling infrastructure in Oakland Co.  | To develop economically and environmentally sustainable collection, reuse, & recycling system through shared responsibility   | To develop a cooperative approach for providing on-going & cost-effective electronics recycling programs throughout region.   |
| Partners                        | Local & state gov't agencies, private sector business, Mich Recyc. Coalition   | U.S EPA Region 3, state & local gov't agencies, Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA), Waste Management ARG, Envirocycle   | 6 Districts representing 10 counties, Local recycling businesses & non-profits. Each County operates independently but uses a common processing contractor (Envirocycle).   |
| Government Role                 | To establish materials supply infrastructure; To develop best practices among municipal collection programs; to attract service providers to Electronics Handling Campus.<br><b>Municipal Consortium</b> – to encourage municipally-run e-scrap collection | U.S. EPA & govt partners received grant from EIA to pilot local gov't-run collection events.<br>EIA advocates gov't role is to reduce regulatory barriers, promote infrastructure development. & provide economic incentives. | IN solid waste districts may have more direct role in waste management system (own landfills, transfer stations, etc.). Thus, districts have direct incentive to develop programs that reduce waste going to landfills. |
| Funding Source/Drop-off Fee     | Gen. Rev., drop-off fees, donations, grants, commodity sales<br>Drop-off Fees: ave \$5-\$7 per CRT   | \$50,000 grant funds from EIA members (Sony, Panasonic, Sharp, etc.). Grant paid for transportation & recycling costs. Drop-off Fees required under grant.  | Landfill tipping fees, user fees, partnership donations, etc.<br>Drop-off Fees: \$5 per carload   |
| Source/Materials Accepted       | Primarily residents & some institutions<br>Computers, TVs, stereos, vcrrs, phones, misc.   | Primarily residents, maybe institutions & businesses. Accept computers, TVs, stereos, vcrrs, phones, misc.  | Primarily residents but businesses are accepted in some programs.<br>"If it's electronic, it's accepted".   |
| Local Infrastructure Available? | Electronics Handling Campus is in development. Used multiple contractors.  | Varies by state   | Chesapeake Electronics Recycling, municipal drop-off locations, etc.  |
| Collection Mode                 | Mostly municipal events, some combined with HHW events; 2 curbside collections; and, 4 municipal permanent drop-offs.  | Combination of eCycling events and on-going collection at permanent drop-off locations (transfer stations, landfills, etc.).  | Some offer collection events, others have permanent drop-off locations at recycling centers, transfer stations, etc.  |
| Lessons Learned                 | Events generate interest but recommend permanent approach; Accepting more materials is better, take tvs; charge drop-off fees, obtain dedicated funding; pursue cooperative contracting & shared responsibility  |   | Expand local partnerships<br>Educating public about cost of proper disposal (it costs to recycle, just as it does for landfilling).   |
| Next Steps                      | Education & training through Municipal Consortium; attract private sector to process electronics locally.  |   | Develop more on-going programs. Some counties are establishing permanent facilities or drop-off locations.  |

## **Regional Consumer Electronics Task Force -- Targeted Goals and Desired Outcomes**

**Grant Program Purpose:** To develop economical and environmentally responsible alternatives for a region-wide permanent process or system to collect obsolete electronics.

- To identify the regional component(s) for the grant program,
- To develop alternatives for local, on-going process or system for each jurisdiction (may be uniform approach or customized to local conditions),
- To establish timeline for developing recommendations.

### **Task Force Goals and Desired Outcomes:**

- To establish a user fee funding mechanism
- To draft legislative policy recommendations
- To develop regional public education/outreach
- To serve as a model for other districts state-wide
- To expand stakeholder participatory process to ensure representative input from all parties involved in the lifecycle of used electronics,
- To effectively utilize grant funds to develop local infrastructure for a sustainable program after grant funds are expended.

**Task Force Recommendations Target Date:** January 2004

## **Current Trends In Electronics Management from Best Practices Research**

- Charge program participants an upfront fee to drop-off electronics,
- Establish a dedicated source of funding (advanced recycling fee, surcharge, etc.),
- Drop-off location(s) for events or permanent locations needs to be convenient,
- Develop local processing & recycling infrastructure to improve cost effectiveness,
- Focus on collecting electronics from residents & institutions, rather than businesses,
- Collect a wide range of electronics, not just CRTs (must collect TVs),
- Move away from collection events to on-going permanent program or system,
- Emphasize domestic processing utilizing legitimate recyclers to avoid materials ending up in third world countries where regulations or enforcement are lax.
- Government role is to provide incentives for diverting materials from landfill disposal and creating consumer demand for electronics recycling (regulations, market development, public education, etc.).
- Shared Responsibility (Product Stewardship) – voluntary program and legislation development towards local governments sharing cost of collecting electronics and electronics manufacturers focusing on paying for processing and recycling.

## **Research Updates: Industry and National/State Programs and Legislation:**

September 22, 2003

**Request for Assistance for Retailer/OEM Involvement:** I contacted U.S. EPA "Plug-into-eCycling" staff. Received a response but no guidance or assistance provided to date.

**Doe Run Company (Missouri):** Scheduled closing Buick lead smelter due to dropping markets for lead. Boss, MO lead smelter received ISO certification (14001?). Doe Run has four lead smelters in Missouri.

**Lexmark:** Printer manufacturer is last manufacturer to join U.S. EPA's "Plug-Into-eCycling" campaign and has entered into agreements with two electronics processors to provide assistance for collection and recycling of branded products.

**Federal CRT Rule:** U.S. EPA staff is responding to comments primarily on restricting overseas processing. Do not foresee including any other electronics at this time. Anticipate issuing final rule in Spring or Summer 2004.

**EPA Innovative Program Grants:** Awarded grant to test reverse distribution model for recovery of used electronics. Grantees include Staples, MA & CT, and Product Stewardship Institute. This project will evaluate collecting used electronics using the same process used to deliver products.

**Wisconsin New Electronics Programs:** Developed CRT management guidelines following proposed federal CRT Rule. State natural resources agency implemented pilot collections targeting small businesses, and are drafting scrap recycler checklist to ensure environmentally sound practices.

**California Senate Bill 20:** Bill needed to be approved by Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> in order to become law. Measure would establish a state-wide e-scrap recovery system where consumers could recycle their obsolete electronics for free. Advanced recycling fee monies would be used to pay for collections and recycling. Could serve as a model for other states.

**Electronics Product Stewardship Canada:** Industry funded EPS Canada seeks letters of support for advanced recycling fee concept. Positive momentum towards a Canadian solution is that municipalities might pay a portion of costs for collecting e-scrap, given that such activities reduce landfill responsibilities and environmental risks. In Alberta, a stewardship measure is before Parliament to place a recycling fee on electronics for a recovery program.

**Dell "No Computer Should Go to Waste" Program:** Dell is establishing a regional network of electronics processors to handle e-scrap from its customer computer take-back program. Dell announced a limited time 99 cent offer for its computer take-back program. The 15-city collection event program was completed in July 2003 with record setting volume and attendance. Finally, Dell and NRC announced new partnership to develop best practices training workshops for municipal and university recycling coordinators.

**State Legislation Establish Stewardship Committees/Task Forces:** Oregon, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, and Michigan have stewardship councils to develop recommendations for state-wide electronics recovery systems. Gov. Blagojevich vetoed Illinois measure.